6. Afforestation under 20-Point Programme.
7. Association of Scheduled Tribes and Rural poor in afforestation of degraded forest lands.
8. Project Tiger Scheme.
9. Eco-Development scheme.
10. Beneficiary oriented scheme for Tribal Development.
11. Project Elephant.
12. Abatement of Pollution.
13. Adoption of Clean Technologies in Small Scale Industries.
14. Environment Statistics and Mapping.
15. Industrial Pollution Control.
16. Pollution Monitoring and Review.
17. Environment Impact Assessment.
18. Conservation and Survey
19. Biosphere Reserve Management Programme.
20. Research and Development.
21. Scheme on Environmental Information Dissemination named Paryavaran Vahini
22. Eco Clubs.
23. National River Conservation Programme.
24. Conservation and Management of Wetlands.
25. Assistance to Botanical Garden.

World Bank loan for forest projects

424. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are seeking a loan of Rs. 700 crores from the World Bank for forest projects as reported in Indian Express dated 30th October, 1999;

(b) if so, why the country needs foreign aid for its forests;

(c) whether Government are able to judge the kind of forests the country needs and how to grow them; and

(d) if so, what is the logic of letting our forests being cut down and seeking foreign aid to grow new trees?

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* The Scheme is Implemented during the Ninth Five Year Plan in North-East.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) World Bank assistance has been sought for implementation of Maharashtra Forestry Project-Phase II, with estimated cost of about Rs. 600 crore.

(b) Externally aided forestry projects are implemented to augment the availability of resources for forestry sector.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Felling of trees in the forest area is allowed only as per approved working plans/management plans. External aid is required to augment the resources for development and conservation of forests.

Poaching in Kaziranga National Park

†425. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poachers are getting access to the Kaziranga National Park;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 20 such cases took place during 1997-98; and

(c) if so, what action is being taken by Government to check such poaching?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir. During the year 1997 and 1998, there were 20 Nos. of poaching cases. The details are as follows:

Year	*No. of poaching cases*
1997	12
1998	8

(c) Action taken by the government to check poaching are as follows:

1. Hunting of wild animals included in Schedule I to IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has been banned by the law.

2. Special projects for protection and conservation of tiger, elephant and rhinos and their habitat are being implemented.

3. Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, whenever information of illegal trade in wild animals reaches them.

4. International trade in endangered species of animals and articles made thereof is regulated under the provisions of the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

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†Original notice of the Question received in Hindi.